

CLAIMS

1. (previously presented) A snap on protective member adapted to be affixed to a bed frame component having exterior edges, said snap on member comprising an elongated member having outside edges, each of said outside edges having a lip adapted to fit around an exterior edge of the bed frame component, and a projection formed in said elongated member adjacent to said lip to sandwich the exterior edges of said bed frame component between said lip and said projection to hold said elongated member to said bed frame component in a position wherein the elongated member intermediate said outside edges is slightly bowed away from the bed frame component.

2. (original) A snap on protective member as defined in claim 1 wherein said lip is a curved lip.

3. (previously presented) A snap on protective member as defined in claim 1 wherein said elongated member includes a plurality of ribs extending outwardly from the elongated member to slightly bow the elongated member intermediate said outside edges a predetermined distance away from said component.

4. (previously presented) A snap on protective member as defined in claim 3 wherein said plurality of ribs are adapted to contact said bed frame component.

5. (original) A snap on protective member as defined in claim 1 wherein said elongated member is generally L-shaped in cross section so as to be affixed to a side rail of a bed frame.

6. (original) A snap on protective member as defined in claim 1 wherein said elongated member is a generally I-shape in cross section so as to be affixed to a planar upper surface of a center rail of a bed frame.

7. (original) A snap on protective member as defined in claim 6 wherein the generally I-shaped cross section is slightly curved.

8. (original) A snap on protective member as defined in claim 1 wherein said elongated member is an extruded polyethylene.

9. (previously presented) A bed frame assembly comprising side rails, cross members interconnecting said side rails, and a center rail affixed to said cross members and oriented generally parallel to said side rails, an elongated snap on member affixed at least substantially along the length of at least one of said side rails or said center rail, said elongated member having opposite edges, each of said opposite edges having a curved lip adapted to fit over an outside edge of the bed frame component, and a projection formed in said elongated member adjacent to said curved lip to sandwich said outside edges of said bed frame component between said curved lip and said at least one projection to hold said elongated member to said bed frame component in a position wherein the elongated member intermediate said outside edges is slightly bowed away from the bed frame component.

10. (previously presented) A bed frame assembly as defined in claim 9 wherein said elongated member includes at least one rib extending from a surface of the elongated member to slightly bow the elongated member intermediate said outside edges a predetermined distance away from said component.

11. (previously presented) A bed frame assembly as defined in claim 10 wherein said at least one rib comprises a plurality of ribs extending outwardly from said elongated member adapted to contact the bed frame component.

12. (original) A bed frame assembly as defined in claim 10 wherein said cross members have an upper surface, and wherein said at least one rib is of predetermined dimensions to form an upper surface of said elongated member substantially even with the upper surface of said cross members.

13. (original) A bed frame assembly as defined in claim 12 wherein said at least one rib comprises a plurality of ribs that extend downwardly from said elongated member so as to contact said bed frame component.

14. (original) A bed frame assembly as defined in claim 12 wherein said elongated member has a slightly curved I-shaped cross section.

15. (previously presented) A method of protecting a bed frame component having exterior edges, said method comprising the steps of:

providing an elongated member having outside edges formed as curved lips and having at least one projection,

snap fitting the elongated member onto the bed frame component by forcing the curved lips to at least partially surround the exterior edges of the bed frame component to sandwich the exterior edges of the bed frame component between the curved lips and the at least one projection while creating a slightly bowed configuration of the elongated member outwardly from the bed frame component.

16. (original) A method as defined in claim 15 wherein said step of providing an elongated member comprises providing an extruded plastic elongate member.

17. (original) A method as defined in claim 16 wherein said step of providing an elongated member comprises providing a member having a generally L-shaped cross section.

18. (original) A method as defined in claim 16 wherein said step of providing an elongated member comprises providing a member having a slightly curved I-shaped cross section.